

“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”

MINUTES

City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board

June 16, 2005

Meeting held at:

City Operations Building
4th Floor Training Room
1222 First Avenue
San Diego, CA 92101

Mailing address is:

City of San Diego
Park & Recreation Board
202 “C” Street, MS. 9B
San Diego, CA 92101

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present

Ginny Barnes, Vice Chair
Darlene Davies (2:16)
Kevin Faulconer
Norman Greene (2:18)
Dan Mazzella
Bob Otilie
Olivia Puentes-Reynolds
Robert Robinson

Members Absent

Jim Austin, Chair
Dan Coffey
Aurora Cudal

Staff Present

Manny Aranda
Mike Behan
Bill Deloatch
Mauro Garcia
Ann Hix
JoEllen Jacoby
Stacey LoMedico
Ted Medina

Mike Morrow
Hossein Motamani
Sally Pearson
April Penner
Kelly Rodgers
Deborah Sharpe

Mr. Austin and Ms. Cudal gave notice that they would be unable to attend the meeting.
Ms. Hilda Mendoza, Deputy City Attorney, filled in for Ms. Shannon Thomas, Deputy City Attorney, who was unable to attend the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Ginny Barnes called the meeting to order at 2:12 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Mazzella/Mr. Otilie

Mr. Mazzella moved to approve the Minutes of May 19, 2005 with one correction. Ms. Shannon Thomas’ title was incorrectly listed as “Deputy City Manager” instead of “Deputy City Attorney.” Mr. Otilie seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

COMMENTS OR ADDITIONS

None.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

No report.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Ted Medina, Acting Park and Recreation Director, reported on the following:

- Location of the July 21 Park and Recreation Board meeting has been changed to the Wells Fargo Bank Building, 401 B Street, 4th Floor, Retirement Board Conference Room. No meeting is currently planned for August.

- In response to questions asked at the May 19 meeting, Mr. Medina provided the following recap:

Mrs. Susan and Mr. Anthony Mournian addressed the Board regarding their concern about the lack of a permanent Center Director at the Tecolote Recreation Center. Mr. Medina explained the events leading up to that situation, and announced that a full time Center Director will begin on Monday, June 20.

- Referenced the various events described in the Monthly Highlights and invited the Board members to attend.

- Referenced a list of questions regarding Mount Hope Cemetery that the Board requested information about at the June 1 meeting. Mr. Medina asked the Board members to review the list for accuracy and/or any additional information they would like and let Ms. Stacey LoMedico, Assistant to the Director, know by June 27. A report will be compiled for discussion at the July 21 meeting.

Mr. Faulconer expressed concern that the City Council is letting other departments put items on a "wish list" in case funding becomes available, but the only item he has heard about for Park and Recreation is the Showmobile and asked for clarification. Mr. Medina explained that the Gold Coast Classic Organization, the San Diego African-American Sports Council, agreed to forego their 2006 Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) allotment of \$200,000, however, they met with Councilmember Young and the Mayor and decided that \$25,000 of that \$200,000 should be applied to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade. Park and Recreation identified two items of significant priority for restoration: 1) One Pesticide Applicator, a city-wide maintenance operation totaling \$85,499, that also includes a vehicle with spray equipment; and 2) the balance would be earmarked for the Showmobile program which includes a Utility Worker II position, and a Grounds

Maintenance Worker I position (8 month position) subject to Council review and approval. This funding would only cover the services of the Showmobile to the community, Wednesday through Sunday, on a first come-first served basis. Mr. Medina explained to Mr. Robinson that due to a reduction in resources, this would not include chairs, tables, risers, etc. He further explained that the Council Districts do have the opportunity to use sponsorships, 3 each per Council District per year, and 6 for the Mayor's office. Mr. Faulconer encouraged members of the Board and the public who care about the proposed cuts to the Park and Recreation budget to talk to their Councilmembers and attend the upcoming budget hearings.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent

A motion was made by Mr. Greene and seconded by Mr. Robinson to move item #102 (with correction) and item #103 to consent:

102. Amendment to the General Development Plan for Lake Murray Park

Ms. Barnes noted that there is a correction to the report under "Other Recommendations," third recommendation. The softball field fences are not permanent. The Lake Murray Recreation Council would like the softball field fences in the outfield area to be permanent. Staff will determine how this could affect maintenance of the area and is considering making the fences removable if use of the fields change in the future. Mr. Medina further explained that removable fencing is used in other parks where there is a need for multi-use fields. Ms. April Pender, Park Planning and Development Deputy Director, has confirmed that using removable fencing is acceptable to the Lake Murray Recreation Council.

103. General Development Plan for Carroll School Neighborhood Park and General Development Revision for Mira Mesa Community Park

The motion carried unanimously.

Adoption

101. San Diego Aerospace Museum – Lease Amendment to allow for a catering kitchen and café

Mr. Mike Behan, Developed Regional Parks Deputy Director, shared a slide presentation of the Aerospace Museum area where the proposed catering kitchen and café will be located. Hours of operation will be 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and is intended to serve museum patrons, volunteers and staff. Inside café seating will accommodate 15 – 25 people, depending on the configuration of the final design, with the potential for a dozen tables with umbrellas on the outside patio. Additional outside tables are not envisioned, as one of the project goals is to restore the patio to its 1935 configuration. Due to the lack of a liquor license, the museum must hire

outside vendors to service their patrons when special events are held, and do not share in any of the profits. Projected additional revenue for the museum could be \$12 – \$16,000 per month, depending on how many special events are scheduled. However, this is contingent upon having a catering kitchen and liquor license in order to negotiate favorable contracts with vendors as other Park institutions do so now. Parking in this area is utilized by evening patrons of the Old Globe, the Prado Restaurant, as well as the other museums located nearby. There are several parking lots located in and around Balboa Park that can be utilized for evening and special events. The environmental report is still pending. However, before the proposed project can move forward to City Council for approval, the determination must be completed.

Mr. Behan introduced Mr. Ken Curtis, Executive Director of the Aerospace Museum, who recognized Mr. John Bolthouse, Chief Operating Officer, and Mr. Dale Cors, a member of the Board of Directors and Treasurer. Mr. Curtis provided a detailed description of the proposed project and responded to questions from the Board.

In response to a question from Mr. Green about why the café will not be open to the public, Mr. Curtis explained that because it is located at the rear of the building, unlike some of the other museums that have cafes immediately inside the entrance to the museum, it is intended to facilitate the needs of the catering services for special events held at the museum rather than be open to the general public. In addition, State law requires a café facility in order to secure a liquor license. Mr. Curtis further explained that it would be a poor business practice on his part to continue to allow an outside vendor to keep all the revenue made from special events at the museum that should be rightfully shared with this 501-C3 non profit institution. The revenue received from the sale of food and alcohol will go toward capital improvements and maintenance at the museum.

Mr. Robinson expressed concern about the liquor license and what conditions will be contained within that license. For example, will there be specific hours when alcohol is served; beer and wine only or will mixed drinks also be served? Mr. Behan explained the strict regulations the Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) places on all of its applicants and the thorough vetting process that takes place before a license is issued. Several other institutions in Balboa Park serve alcohol as part of their catered events and have so far not experienced any alcohol related problems. If a license is issued to the Aerospace Museum, it will be consistent with all of the other venues in Balboa Park. The City of San Diego Municipal Code allows alcoholic beverage consumption in various areas of the park, but it is the ABC that makes the final decision on who will actually be issued a liquor license.

MOTION MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Otilie/Mr. Greene

Mr. Otilie moved to recommend that City Council approve the proposed lease amendment with the following conditions:

1. No smoking in the proposed café or around the patio seating area.
2. Sale of alcohol is limited to beer and wine between the hours of 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.
3. Sale or service of alcohol at special events may include additional alcoholic beverages (mixed drinks) as long as those events are not open to the public, i.e., either held outside of normal operating hours or if held within normal operating hours, they are private.

The motion was approved unanimously by the Board.

INFORMATION ITEMS

201. Council District 7 Population-based Park Status

A motion was made by Mr. Greene and seconded by Ms. Puentes-Reynolds to hear this item at a future date. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Area Committee CP I

No meeting.

Area Committee CP II

Mr. Robinson expressed concern about the sparse attendance at these meetings and would like to see improvement in this area. Some Recreation Council members did not receive their draft copies of the Standard Operating Procedures and Special Use Permits. According to Ms. Barnes, they will be given extra time to review and she will contact Mr. Bill Deloatch, Community Parks II Deputy Director, to get the final date for this to be done so that staff can be notified.

Balboa Park Committee

Ms. Davies reported that a great deal of time is being spent on formulating guidelines for Special Events held in Balboa Park. She has been working cooperatively with the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership and meeting with public officials trying to develop some income streams, which is difficult in these times. She is very pleased with how well all entities are working together and feels the outcome will be very positive.

Design Review Committee

No report.

Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens' Advisory Committee

No report.

Mission Bay Park Committee

Mr. Faulconer reported that the \$1.4 million in the Mission Bay Park Improvement Fund is most likely going to be lost to the park again this fiscal year because of the City's financial crisis. This is money that is designated for improvements to Mission Bay Park, Balboa Park and other regional parks. A decision will be made at the City Council meeting on June 20.

Mr. Faulconer also reported that the first lease assumption and renewal was presented by the Real Estate Assets Department for the Hyatt Islandia Hotel. There are 32 years remaining on the lease and the new owner/applicant is requesting an 18 year lease extension for a total of 50 years. The Committee had some questions about the process and voted to have Real Estate Assets come back for further discussion and review by their Finance Sub-Committee. Mr. Faulconer was concerned about the appropriateness of a 50 year lease and if this was practical or not. He was concerned that because this was the first lease renewal to come before them, and the fact that this lease still has 38 years left on it, that the Mission Bay Park Committee had not been given ample time to review the lease and felt that Real Estate Assets could have come to the Mission Bay Park Committee much sooner than they did.

Mr. Otilie commented that he feels when items of a significant nature come to the Mission Bay Park Committee and/or to the Park and Recreation Board that they are not brought in good faith but more for the sake of saying that the item has been to these committees, even if one or both committees have expressed concern with the project.

Mr. Faulconer asked Mr. Medina to talk with Mr. Will Griffith, Real Estate Assets Department Director, and urge him to bring the lease back through the Mission Bay Park Finance Sub-Committee and the Mission Bay Park Committee before going to City Council because the Mission Bay Park Committee had additional questions and had asked Real Estate Assets for an additional 30 days to review. Mr. Faulconer asked Mr. Medina to find out from Mr. Griffith why this is going from the Mission Bay Park Committee directly to City Council and not through the Park and Recreation Board first. Comments were also heard on this issue from Ms. Barnes, Mr. Greene, and Ms. Davies. Mr. Medina agreed to talk to Mr. Griffith as soon as possible. He also explained that there are many occasions when the Park and Recreation Department is left out of the loop

until the last moment and although staff try to be as accommodating as possible, this is not our preference.

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee

No report.

Tecolote Canyon Natural Park

No report.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting is: Thursday, July 21, 2005, 2:00 p.m.

**Wells Fargo Bank Building
Retirement Board Conference Room
401 B Street, 4th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101**

Submitted by,

Ted Medina
Staff Representative

TM:sp

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